

REMARKS

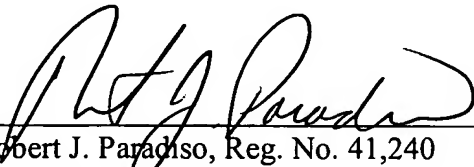
The application has been amended to adapt the specification and claims of the underlying international application to U.S. practice. Claims 1 to 18, as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2003/013546 have been canceled, and new claims 19 to 36 have been added.

Applicant believes that no fees are due as a result of this amendment. In the event of a fee discrepancy, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: _____


Robert J. Paradiso, Reg. No. 41,240
(signing for Thomas P. Canty, Reg. No. 44,586)

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC
485 Seventh Avenue - 14th Floor
New York, New York 10018
(212) 736-1940